

HUNTERDON COUNTY POLICE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION BLUE ENVELOPE PROGRAM

Caregivers of individuals on the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) know them better than anyone, but that is not always true for others that interact with those with ASD.

The Hunterdon County Police Chiefs Association has developed a Blue Envelope Program, modeled on a program first developed and distributed in the State of Connecticut. The purpose of the Blue Envelope is to improve the interaction between a driver with ASD and a Police Officer on a traffic stop.

The primary goal of the Blue Envelope is to assist drivers with ASD with document organization and to help them understand what to do on a motor vehicle stop. Secondly, the Blue Envelope provides Police Officers with the means to quickly identify an operator of a motor vehicle who has ASD and helps guide Police Officers with the interaction.

The Blue Envelopes are available at each of the Police Departments, the Sheriff's Department, the Prosecutor's Office, and the State Police Barracks within Hunterdon County.

DRIVER IS ON THE AUTISTIC SPECTRUM **DRIVER IS VERBAL ___ DRIVER IS NONVERBAL ___**

"BLUE ENVELOPE" IMPORTANT VEHICLE PAPERS!

- Keep your hands on the steering wheel until otherwise directed, even if the officer is not at your car.
- The officer may shine a flashlight in your car, may have a radio, and may have flashing lights on their car.
- When the officer gets to your car let them know you have a blue envelope, answer the officer's questions, and ask the officer before moving any parts of your body.

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POLICE OFFICER SPECTRUM AWARENESS GUIDE ON BACK FLAP OF ENVELOPE

POLICE OFFICER:

- Driver may exhibit signs of anxiety due to bright lights and noises like your radio.
- Driver may display repetitive body movements or fidgeting and may have unusual eye contact.
- Speak clearly and use the most simplistic explanations possible, limit unnecessary details.
- Allow driver extra time to respond, driver may need more time to formulate a response.
- Clearly tell the driver when the stop is over and they can leave.
- If the driver becomes upset consider contacting the person listed on the contact card.

IMPORTANT VEHICLE PAPERS! Contents:

- **Driver's License**
- **Vehicle Registration**
- **Current Insurance Card**
- **Emergency Contact**